



State of Connecticut

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February 20, 2013

Testimony in Support of SB 230- AN ACT CONCERNING SWIMMING IN CERTAIN BODIES OF WATER

I would like to thank the Honorable Co-Chairs Senator Terry Gerratana and Representative Susan Johnson, the Honorable Vice Chairs Senator Gayle Slossberg and Representative Philip Miller, and the Ranking Members Senator Jason Welch and Representative Prasad Srinivasan, and the entire membership of the Public Health Committee for their time today addressing this issue.

The purpose of SB 230, is allow swimming in bodies of water where is has historically been permitted. This bill will permit the 100 year old practice of swimming in Lake Kenosia to continue. The City of Danbury recently learned that an interpretation of Chapter 440 of the Connecticut General Statutes given by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection that the practice of swimming will no longer be permitted, as portions of Lake Kenosia serve as a water source for the City.

While Lake Kenosia has been used as a water source for many years, the City has carefully engineered the flood skimming process to be around swimming season. They have worked jointly with the State of Connecticut since 1985, when the Lake Kenosia Flood Skimming Station was put into operation. The City of Danbury has obtained the necessary permits and the station has been proven to be a safe and effective water supply. The City of Danbury would like to work jointly with the Department of Public Health and Department of Energy and Environmental protection to ensure the flood skimming practice remains intact while still allowing the residents of the City of Danbury and nearby communities a safe and fun swimming experience.

I appreciate the attention of the committee on this important issue. I hope the members see the opportunity that lies before us to protect against identity theft and protect the memories of those who perished in Newtown. I urge the members of the committee to support the bill, and make the bill effective upon passage.

Regards,